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Far East
Price (including Postage) is 1/6
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No. 17,047.

號四月正年八十壹百九千壹英

SONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 4, 1918.

日十次歲年七國民華中

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TOTAL FUNDS at 31st DECEMBER, 1914,
£23,970,367.
I—Authorized Capital £8,000,000
Subscribed Capital £4,500,000
Paid-up Capital £2,437,500
II—Fire Funds £3,837,047
III—Life & Annuity Funds £17,567,590
Sinking Fund Account £128,230
£23,970,367
Revenue Fire Branch £2,381,466
Life and Annuity £2,141,693
Revenue Marine Department £37,238
Other Receipts £478,940
£5,339,228
The Accumulative Funds of the various
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10.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
2.45 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
3.15 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.

WEEK END

8.00 p.m. and 9 p.m., 8.30 p.m. to 11.00
p.m. every half hour.
11.00 p.m. to 11.45 p.m. every quarter of
an hour

SUNDAY

7.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. Every 10 minutes.
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CURE A COLD IN THE SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.
AN EXCELLENT REMEDY FOR
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"All Saints' Lodge," Howley, Blackwater, Hants.
Mrs. — will be much obliged by Messrs. WATSON sending to her by post
10 bottles of their "Cold Cure." She will be glad to have these as soon as possible,
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"CHINA MAIL" OFFICE

THE WAR.

TO-DAY'S TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)

RUSSO-GERMAN PEACE DRAMA.

"THE MASK HAS FALLEN."
TROTSKY ON GERMANY'S
HYPOCRITICAL PEACE
PROPOSALS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 3.

M. Trotsky, addressing a meeting
of the Central Committee of the
Soviets, mordantly unmasked what
he described as the hypocritical peace
proposals of Germany.

He declared that his Government
and the workers would never consent
to such conditions as Germany wish-
ed to impose. If the Central Powers
did not consent to the free
disposal of the destinies of the Polish
and Lithuanian nations, it would be
urgently necessary courageously to
defend the Russian Revolution.

After M. Trotsky's speech, the
Soviets passed a resolution declaring
that the refusal of the Representa-
tives of Germany to admit the free
right of oppressed nations and
colonies, seized before the war, to
dispose of their own destiny signified
that the German authorities are
adopting their old annexationist
policy. Austria and Germany refuse
to guarantee immediately and ir-
revocably the removal of their troops
from Poland, Lithuania, Courland
and parts of Livonia and Estonia.

The free affirmation of the will of
the populations of the occupied coun-
tries is impossible until the popula-
tions return. The allegation of the
German Delegates that the will of
the peoples of these countries has
already been manifested is without
foundation, because the peoples of
the occupied countries could not
express their will under martial law
and a military censorship. "We
defend the right of Poland, Lithuania
and Courland to dispose of their own
destiny really and freely. We say
to the peoples of Austria, Germany,
Bulgaria and Turkey: 'Remember
that the conclusion of an immediate
democratic peace will depend, above
all, on you.' All the peoples of
Europe look to you who are exhaust-
ed and bled by an unprecedented war
that you will not permit the Austrian
and German Imperialists to make
war on Revolutionary Russia for the
subjugation of Poland, Lithuania,
Courland and Armenia."

Subsequently, the representatives
on all Fronts were telegraphically
summoned to Petrograd. They ad-
mitted that the situation on the
Fronts is distressing, but declared
the Army would defend the Russian
Revolution; but they demanded
bread and boots.

"THE MASK IS TORN OFF."
RUSSIAN APPEAL TO GERMAN
SOLDIERS TO REVOLT.
LONDON, Jan. 3.

M. Trotsky's speech to the Central
Committee of the Soviets is the first
official news received in London that
there had been a rupture of the peace
negotiations, and even yet, the terms
to which M. Trotsky takes exception
have not been disclosed. "But it is
apparently true that Germany adopts
the attitude that Poland, Courland,
Lithuania and Estonia have already
expressed a desire to be annexed to
Germany, and, therefore, Germany
must remain in occupation of these
regions."

This may be inferred from a re-
markable article published in the
Soviet, *Pravda*, and repro-
duced in pamphlet form, in the
German language, by the governing
authorities, with a view to its dis-
tribution among the German troops
at the Front.

The article, which is headed
"The Mask is Torn Off," declares
that the conditions submitted to the
Russian Peace Delegation shows that
"all the Austrian and German prom-
ises of a democratic peace are
unconscionable lies."

After describing various exhibitions
of the "masked lies" in Poland and
Lithuania, by the enslavement,
shootings and starvation of the
population, the article says, only
German barons and Polish land-
owners ask for annexation to Ger-
many. These are the people whom
Austria and Germany assume speak
for the entire population as regards
self-determination which, in this
sense, means nothing but the viola-
tion of the will of the mass of work-
men and indigent peasants.

The German Government desires to
"free" the peoples of the Russian
western frontier from the Russian
Revolution and to subjugate them
with German capital; to impose an
Austrian monarchy on Poland and to
make German duchies of Lithuania
and Courland.

The article concludes by saying:
On such a basis the Russian Govern-
ment can never enter into negotia-
tions. The mask has fallen, and the
word is now with you, German
soldiers and workmen. Rise, sol-
diers of Germany, for a revolution-
ary struggle against a prolonged war.
Fire no further shot on the Russian
Front; do not be the executioners
of Russians and the Revolution.
Let not a single regiment proceed
to the other Fronts. If you wish a
general peace, enable the people to
come to their senses."

RUSSIA'S PLENIPOTENTIARY TO LONDON.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

M. Litvinoff, who has been ap-
pointed as "Provisional Plenipoten-
tiary" to London, is a prominent
London Russian, associated with the
Russian Political Exiles Society, and
holds a post in the Russian Govern-
ment Commission in London.

RUSSIAN REVOLUTIONARIES SHOT BY RUMANIANS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 3.

The Revolutionaries mentioned in
a previous telegram were shot after
the Rumanian troops had occupied
Leovo and other villages in Bessa-
rabia.

The Ukrainian Rada has banded
over the Jessy-Ugen railway to the
Rumanians.

No supplies are being sent to the
Fourth Army whose Ukrainian units
have not recognised General Tob-
bachoff and the Rada.

It was the Military Revolutionary
Committee of this Army which was
invited to Jessy where they were
arrested and one member of the
Committee was shot.

The Rumanian Legation, replying
to M. Trotsky's threat, says it is
not aware of the events at Leovo,
but there had been conflicts between
Russian troops on Rumanian ter-
ritory which was intolerable, more-
over, the whole of the Russian
Divisions had been pillaging and
burning, therefore, the Rumanian
Government was obliged to inter-
vene.

INTIMATIONS

NOTICE.

WE have this day authorized Mr. CHARLES BERNARD BROWN, A.C.A., to SIGN OUR FIRM name as a Partner.

LINSTEAD & DAVIS.
Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

NOTICE.

AS from the 1st Day of January, 1918, the business heretofore carried on in Hongkong under the Style of E. PABANEY will be carried on by CUMMINGS & Co., Ltd.

P. E. PABANEY,
A. B. AYASIA.
Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918.

NOTICE.

WE HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that we have as from JANUARY 1st, 1918, admitted into Partnership Mr. ARCHIBALD ARTHUR CLAYTON and our Business as Manufacturers' Representatives will in future be carried on at 35 Robinson Road, Singapore and 4 Des Vaux Road, Hongkong, under the Style of NEWELL & CLAYTON.

HOLLWAY & NEWELL.
Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

NOTICE.

WE have this day admitted Mr. P. M. NOLASCO DA SILVA as a Partner in our Firm, which in future will be carried on under the style or firm of WORCESTER, LAMBERT and SILVA.

WORCESTER & LAMBERT.
Hongkong, Jan. 1, 1918.

ITALIAN CONVENT,
Caine Road.

PITMAN'S SHORTHAND CLASSES.

NEW term for Shorthand Classes begins on the 2nd January, 1918. Private classes held in the morning. For particulars apply at the Convent. Hongkong, Dec. 23, 1917.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

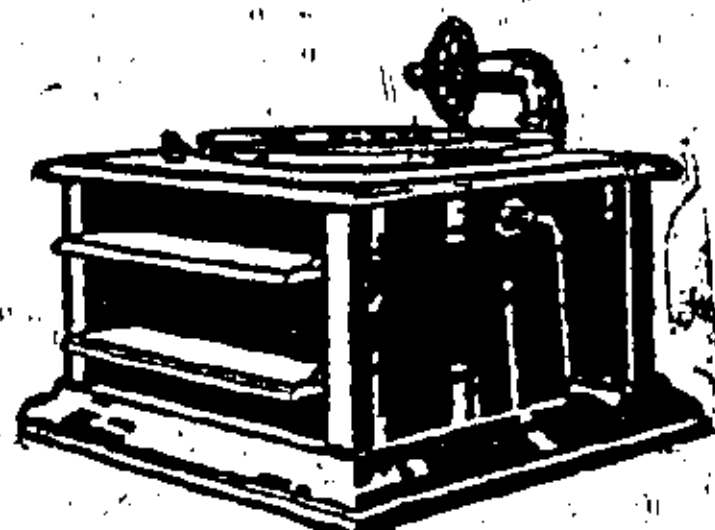
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FROM ALL TOBACCONISTS.

THIS ADVERTISEMENT IS ISSUED BY THE
BRITISH-AMERICAN TOBACCO CO., LTD.

THE ALLEGED MISUSE OF HOSPITAL SHIPS.

ADMIRALTY REPLY.

Papers laid before Parliament containing correspondence with the German Government regarding the alleged misuse of British hospital ships included the reply of the British Admiralty (Mr. Balfour being then First Lord), dated October 5th to the German allegations. This is as follows:—

"The German memorandum of the 28th January, 1917, made allegations of misuse of British and Allied hospital ships, and in 23 annexes furnished evidence, chiefly in the shape of reports of officers of the German Government and statements of witnesses, which, in the view of the German Government, proved or pointed to such misuse. A further memorandum, dated the 29th March, 1917, repeated these allegations in general terms and quoted further declarations in support of them.

"In replying to the accusation brought forward by the German Government, his Majesty's Government desire, before all, to call attention to the remarkable fact that German submarines and other war ships have once exercised the right of inspecting British hospital ships, which is given to them by Article 4 of the Hague Convention for the application of principles of the Geneva Convention to maritime warfare. So far as can be ascertained, they have only once stopped a British hospital ship long enough to examine her papers. This occurred on the 28th February, 1917, when the hospital ship 'Dunluce Castle' was stopped by a German submarine in the Eastern Mediterranean; her papers were found to be in order, and the vessel was allowed to proceed.

"It might have been expected that the German Government, seeing that they had reports in their possession, which they profess to regard as reliable, pointing to the misuse of British hospital ships, would not have completely neglected the obvious and well recognised method of inspection for the purpose of verifying their suspicions. Instead, they have preferred to appeal for support to their charges to conjectural statements of persons who never had an opportunity of ascertaining whether there was real foundation for their assumptions, and, on this flimsy basis, without making any attempt to discover the value of the hour, they have proceeded to make their charges.

they proceeded to the extreme step of ruthlessly attacking innocent hospital ships engaged in their humane task of serving the sick and wounded.

ALLEGATIONS ANALYSED.

"His Majesty's Government have now made inquiry into the allegations contained in the German memoranda so far as they concern British hospital ships, and so far as the charges made are not in such vague terms as to preclude any possibility of investigating their foundation. Generally, the charges group themselves upon four heads, viz:—

"1.—Alleged excessive number of hospital ships in relation to the Gallipoli campaign.

"2.—Changes in the list of hospital ships, with supposed intention to deceive.

"3.—Alleged transport of munitions.

"4.—Alleged transport of troops.

"As to (1), the number of hospital ships employed was not excessive having regard to the number of invalids to be evacuated from Gallipoli. On the contrary, the accommodation on hospital ships proved to be inadequate to meet requirements, and it was necessary to employ ordinary transports in addition for the conveyance of sick and wounded. These transports were, of course, not protected by the Hague Convention, did not fly the Red Cross flag, and were not fitted out as hospital ships.

"As to (2), no rule exists under which a hospital ship, once notified, must remain in hospital service for the duration of the war. It is perfectly true that certain ships were notified as hospital ships and later on were removed from the list. This was due to alterations in the requirements for various classes of tonnage, caused by the sinkings of ships by submarines, and to changes in the military situation.

"There is no ground for the somewhat nebulous suggestion of the German Government that the aim of the changes was to produce uncertainty and confusion in regard to the character of the ships, and no evidence is adduced to show what military advantage could be gained by such confusion, which, in fact, would probably be disadvantageous rather than otherwise, since it would be injurious to the safety of the hospital ships themselves.

"As to (3) and (4), alleged conveyance of munitions and troops to which, under the Convention, hospital ships are prohibited, all the evidence relates to a detailed examination of the particular instances alleged, and is given in the form of a list of British hospital ships, which, under the Convention, are prohibited from carrying munitions or troops. The list is given in the form of a list of British hospital ships, which, under the Convention, are prohibited from carrying munitions or troops.

Corps (who are protected by the Geneva Convention) have been embarked, and it appears probable that the German Government have been misled by the fallacious deductions of their witnesses, who apparently were unable to verify their assumption that cases of Red Cross stores were really munitions of war and bodies of the Royal Medical Corps in khaki uniform detachments of combatant troops.

"The statement in the second German memorandum to the effect that, while his Majesty's Government had denied that British hospital ships had carried either troops or munitions, the British Admiralty had merely declared that no troops had been conveyed in such ships, without denying the carriage of munitions, is curiously devoid of point. Both in the statement issued by his Majesty's Government on February 1st, 1917 and in a Note addressed to the United States Ambassador in London on January 31st, the allegations of the German Government were contradicted in respect both of troops and munitions.

"The discrepancy which the German Government pretend to have discovered between the declarations of his Majesty's Government as a whole, and those of the Admiralty in particular, appears to rest on a statement issued by the Admiralty and published on February 2nd in which particular notice is given to the allegation of Albert Mesensy, circulated in German wireless press messages, to the effect that 2,500 soldiers who were not invalids had been carried by the hospital ship 'Britannic'. With reference to this allegation, the Admiralty stated that no British hospital ship had ever embarked any persons but invalids and hospital staff. There was no occasion in that particular connection to refer to munitions. The play which the German Government make with this imaginary discrepancy is an illustration of their practice of trying to make capital out of infinitesimal points, a practice which had the appearance of being adopted in order to cover up the weakness of their main position.

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but at the cost of only 60 cents a year if you try Pinkettes for your Constipation, Bilious attacks, Liver Troubles, Sick Headaches.



the little gentle laxative, and the only one that does not irritate the bowels. Of course, it is not for the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, which is a different medicine.

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NO. 3 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 4 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 5 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 6 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 7 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 8 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 9 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10
NO. 10 DOCK (Kowloon)	100	20	10	10	10	10	10

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PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT),

MONDAY,

the 7th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

A LARGE AMBROSIO OF CHINESE PORCELAINS, KAKEMONOS, CURIOS, &c., &c.,

Comprising:—

A large variety of 5-coloured and 3-coloured Vases and Plates, Blue and White Vases and Figures, &c., Old Bronzes, including Lacquer Burners of the Sung and Ming Dynasties, Pekinese C'olsonne, (Amber and Jadestone), Carved Bamboo Ware, Old Sookow Lacquer Boxes, Kakemonos and Wall Hangings, Jadestone and Ivory Carvings, etc., etc.

The great portion of the above stock has recently arrived from the North and includes pieces from the Ming, Kanghi, Yungching, Kienling, Kaiching and Tzongking Periods.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue). On view from Friday, at 2 p.m. Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2438

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, (FOR ACCOUNT OF THE GOVERNMENT),

WEDNESDAY,

the 9th January, 1918, commencing at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

TEAKWOOD AND BLACKWOOD FURNITURE, BRASS AND TWIN BEDSTEADS, CURTAINS, CARPETS, PICTURES, &c., AND A LARGE AMBROSIO OF USEFUL HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

As follows:—

Upholstered Suite, Arm-chairs and Chesterfield sofas, Card Tables, &c., Bedroom Furniture, comprising Double and Single Brass and Brass-mounted Bedsteads, and Twin Bedsteads, Sideboards, Dinner Waggon, Extension Dining Tables and Chairs, Tea and Occasional Tables, &c., Dinner Services, Crockery, Glass Ware, Cooking Stoves, Cutlery, Toilet Sets, &c., Bath Room Utensils, Roll-top Desks and Writing Tables, Sundry Electro-Plated Ware.

Electric Reading Lamps, Blackwood and Teakwood Screen, Blackwood Furniture, including Large 4-Fold Blackwood Screen with 6-Coloured Panels, Side Tables, &c., Engravings, Pictures, &c., Tennis Rackets and Net, Iron Safe, &c.

A few lots Turkish Bath Sheets, Towels, Single and Double Bed Sheets, Bed Quilts, &c.

A number of lots of DAMASCENE JEWELLERY, Also Carpets, Brass Fenders, a few lots Fire Brasses, &c.

Two PIANOS.

(Full Particulars from Catalogue). Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2440

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell at their Sales Rooms, No. 3, Des Vaux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

MOTOR YACHT

Length 40 feet
Beam 15 feet 4 inches
Draft 5 feet

Luxurious, Painted, &c.
15 and 8 H.P. Motors. Complete with sails and accessories.

Further Particulars from the Under agent.

Terms:—Cash.

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2441

AUCTION.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

FRIDAY,

the 11th January, 1918, at 3 p.m., on the spot,

The Several Lots Numbered 1 to 19 on Plan to be seen at the Auctioneers' Office, for erection of

Booths and Matcheds.

on the Government Ground adjoining the Race Course, North of the Grand Stand Enclosure.

Terms:—Cash.

For Plan and Condition of Sale, apply to—

HUGHES & HOUGH, Auctioneers to the Government.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2439

FOR SALE

FOR SALE.

NO. 48 ROBINSON ROAD, Hongkong, (7 Rooms etc.)

Apply to—

G. PERCY, At the above Address.

Hongkong, Dec. 25, 1917. 2429

FOR SALE

TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 115, Peak.

Apply—

DUNCAN CLARK, LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 1

TO BE SOLD.

"GALESEND," 109, The Peak.

Apply—

C. H. GALE, P. W. Department.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 2

TO LET

TO LET.

LARGE ROOM in the Ground Floor of the Old Supreme Court.

Apply to—

NORONHA & CO.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 12

TO LET.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED Rooms with excellent cuisine and attendance to let in the Hill District.

Apply 1717.

C/O "CHINA MAIL" Office.

Hongkong, Jan. 2, 1918. 3

TO LET.

OFFICES in York Building.

Apply to—

THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., Ltd.

TO LET.

IMMEDIATE ENTRY, four very desirable SHOPS situated in Ice House Street, opposite the Grand Hotel, recently reconstructed.

For rent and other particulars apply to the Manager, Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd., 48 Connaught Road Central.

Hongkong, August 2, 1917. 2003

TO LET.

FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon.

Four roomed houses in Kowloon.

Apply to—

HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LTD.

Alexandra Buildings.

Hongkong, August 22, 1917.

'CHINA MAIL' OVERLAND EDITION.

THE BEST WEEKLY NEWS-PAPER FOR ALL INTERESTED IN HONGKONG AND CHINA GENERALLY.

ORDER IT BEFORE GOING HOME AND THEN READ IT CLOSELY WITH THE COLONY.

RUSSO-JAPANESE SECRET TREATY

REMARKABLE REVELATION.

CHINA'S AFFAIRS AGAIN.

The following "Kokusai" telegrams appeared in the *Japan Chronicle* of December 24th:—

PETROGRAD, Dec. 23. The *Isveida* publishes the alleged text of a secret Treaty, dated July 8th, 1915, providing for the joint action of Russia and Japan to prevent and third country achieving political dominance in China.

The Treaty, which is signed by Baron Motono, Japanese Ambassador in Petrograd, and Mr. Sazonov, Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, runs for five years and thereafter indefinitely, subject to abrogation at a year's notice on either party expressing a desire for such annulment.

FRAMBLE.

The Treaty stipulates that "this agreement shall remain absolutely secret to all except the High Contracting Parties." The opening statement says that it is designed to supplement and strengthen the secret Treaties of 1907, 1910, and 1912.

ARTICLE I.

The First Article provides that the High Contracting Parties shall recognize that the interests of both demand the defence of China from political domination by any third Power whatsoever cherishing hostile intentions towards China or Japan; the High Contracting Parties therefore undertake that their relations shall at all times be based on full confidence between one another in order that they may conjointly take any action that circumstances necessitate, and they therefore enter upon relations based on full confidence in one another, in order that they may conjointly take any necessary steps to prevent the advent in China of any such state of affairs.

ARTICLE II.

The Second Article provides that in the event, as a consequence of measures undertaken by mutual consent by Russia and Japan on the basis of the preceding Article, of any third Power, as foreseen in that article, declaring war against either Russia or Japan, the other Contracting Party shall, on the first demand of its Ally, come to its Ally's aid. And each of the High Contracting Parties binds itself not to make peace with the common enemy without obtaining the agreement of its Ally thereto.

ARTICLE III.

In the Third Article it is provided that the conditions under which either Contracting Party shall give armed assistance to the other, and the means whereby such assistance shall be expressed shall be fixed by the respective authorities of the High Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE IV.

The Fourth Article provides that it must be especially kept in mind that neither Contracting Party considers itself obliged, in accordance with the Second Article of this Treaty, to give its Ally armed assistance unless each Contracting Party receives guarantees from its Ally [? Ally] that it will render armed assistance to the full extent necessitated by the seriousness of the possible conflict.

AMERICAN OFFICIAL OPINION.

[Mainichi-Chronicle Service].

New York, Dec. 23.

Commenting on the so-called Secret Treaty between Russia and

Japan, described in Petrograd dispatches, American officials consider the disclosure as contemplating "joint armed demonstration against America and the British in the Far East not based on the text of the articles published." It is pointed out that there is the possibility of the Treaty referred to being a special convention concluded between Russia and Japan at about the same time as the so-called Secret Treaty.

It was generally assumed here that the Treaty contained some secret provisions for the sale to Russia of all the Manchurian railroads south of Harbin, the transfer to Japan of the rights of navigation on the Sungari river, and the extension of Japan's fishing rights off the Siberian coast.

[The speculations of the Japanese Press at the time ran mostly on these lines.]

It is said that it is improbable that the United States will make any effort to obtain a statement of the meaning and purpose of these secret articles from the principals, but it is expected that they will come forward voluntarily.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.

Officials here profess to have no knowledge of the Secret Treaty, and consider its authenticity improbable. The Government, they say, is in any position to make an effort to secure an explanation.

In view of the general expectation of a voluntary statement being probably forthcoming from the principals, a careful reading, meanwhile, of the articles of the Secret Treaty inclines officials to the opinion that the general purpose of the Secret Treaty is somewhat in line with the existing Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Alliance, and is designed to protect China from exploitation by a third Power—neither Britain nor America being especially indicated as that Power.

THE CONVENTION OF 1916.

[The "Japan Chronicle" says:—It is interesting to compare the alleged Secret Treaty with the Russo-Japanese Convention concluded on the same day. "The Convention reads:—

Art. I.—Japan will not be a party to any political arrangement or combination directed against Russia, nor will Russia be a party to any political arrangement or combination directed against Japan.

Art. II.—In case of the territorial rights or special interests in the Far East of one of the Contracting Parties recognised as such by the other Contracting Party being menaced, Japan and Russia shall take concerted measures for mutual support or combined action in safeguarding and defending these rights and interests.

The Second Article of this Convention seems almost wide enough in its scope to render a Secret Treaty such as that now published in Russia unnecessary. At the same time it is general enough to need some particularisation. According to the Secret Treaty the growth of any other dominating power than their own in China is regarded by both Japan and Russia as a menace to mutually recognised rights.

Article II. of the Secret Treaty puts definitely what Article II. of the Convention of the same date only implies—namely, that any country which, over a China dispute, declares war on Russia or Japan, will have to fight both. A curious point in this Article is that hostile intentions of any third Power towards Japan are to be equally a casus belli with Russia as hostile intentions towards China—a case of one-sided reciprocity, apparently.

The No Separate Peace clause is clearly reminiscent of the Pact of London. Article III. seems to open the way to a possibility of either Contracting Party backing out of its obligations. "Help it, not, apparently, to be given unconditionally, but on terms, and in the manner deemed meet by the halper. Article IV. (which has been somewhat mutilated in translation) seems still further to leave the rigidity of the obligation to give armed assistance, by obliging the Party demanding help to guarantee in its turn not to let its Ally down—a not unnecessary clause, as the past few months of war history have shown.

On the whole there is nothing in the Secret Treaty which offers internal evidence against its genuineness—unless it be that it contains so little that is not covered by the Convention. This definiteness on the subject of making war, however, the diplomats consider it wise to keep out of published treaties—though there is a very strong body of opinion in all countries now against such secret pacts, which certainly seem potent only for making a small trouble into a great one.

The making of such a treaty as the published Convention was hailed last year as a remarkable event in itself, but if the Secret Treaty is verbally correct as published, there were treaties already in force, made in 1907, 1910, and 1912. This is much more surprising, and unless the newly published Treaty is repudiated as a counterfeit, the Japanese public will require an explanation of the others.

At the time that the Convention was concluded there were numerous rumours that it was accompanied by a secret Treaty, some papers declaring that the known was of much less importance than the unknown.

The "Japan Chronicle" says:—The Russian Government is publishing the secret Treaty, and it is expected that it will come forward voluntarily.

It is said that it is improbable that the United States will make any effort to obtain a statement of the meaning and purpose of these secret articles from the principals, but it is expected that they will come forward voluntarily.

At the time of the conclusion of the Convention in July 1916 it was remarked that, though it resembled in some respects the Anglo-Japanese Treaty of Alliance, a significant difference lay in the fact that in the Russo-Japanese instrument there was no mention of China's territorial integrity or of the "common interests of all Powers." The omissions are equally conspicuous in the Secret Treaty. The recent Agreement with the United States, however, does much to restore the balance, and, in combination with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and the Franco-Japanese Agreement, "makes impossible the partitioning of China, which the Treaties with Russia certainly do not preclude." Mr. Nakashoji, by the way, declared that both Britain and France approved of the Convention, but if the Secret Treaty exists in the terms reported, those two interested Powers were not consulted in a matter where the Russo-Japanese idea of special rights in China might be of wider scope than they approved.

From the nature of the case, China could not be consulted in regard to her views, or the Treaty would no longer have been secret. But China's right to feel hurt at not being consulted when her destinies are arranged for her is not lessened on that account. The Secret Treaty is only one of a long series of important agreements concerning China to which China has not been made a party.

The reports about the Secret Treaty (always presuming that the document now published is genuine) did not indicate any leakage of official secrets in Japan. They are rather to be ascribed to the Japanese papers trying to save face after giving such copious imaginary details of the Convention before it was published. If it is a rather amusing recollection that Mr. Inukai complained that among the numerous imaginary clauses there was nothing about fishing rights! Both the Convention and the Secret Treaty are (except in the particular pointed out regarding threats to Japan), of a much more evenly reciprocal nature than the majority of Japanese critics seem able to understand.]

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TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

GERMAN PEACE CONDITIONS.

WHAT THE RUSSIAN DELEGATES REPORT.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 2. The returned Russian Delegates state that the Germans insist on retaining the Russian industrial centres now occupied until a general peace has been concluded, and one of the primary eventual German peace conditions will be the evacuation of Mesopotamia and Arabia.

THE DISAGREEMENT.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 3. The Bolshevik News Agency, referring to the Brest-Litovsk proposals, says that articles I and II were German proposals to which the Russian Delegates refused to agree. [The Articles are as follow:—
I.—Russia and Germany should declare the state of war ended and that both nations were resolved to live together in the future in peace and friendship. On condition of complete reciprocity vis-à-vis her Allies, Germany was ready as soon as peace was concluded with Russia and the Russian armies were demobilised, to evacuate the present positions and occupied Russian territory so far as no different inference may result from article II.
II.—After the Russian Government, in accordance with its principles, has proclaimed for all peoples of Russia the right of self-determination, including complete separation, it takes cognisance of the decisions expressing the will of the people demanding full state independence and separation from Russia for Poland, Lithuania, Courland, portions of Esthonia and Livonia. The Russian Government recognises that these manifestations must, in the present circumstances be regarded as expressing the will of the people and is ready to draw conclusions therefrom. As in these districts to which the foregoing stipulations apply the question of evacuation is not such as provided in Article I, a special commission shall, in accordance with the Russian idea, arrange for ratification by plebiscite on broad lines, without any military pressure whatever of the already existing separation proclamations.]

The Russian Delegation expressed views in a statement the text of which substantially agrees with the sixth section.
[This was cabled as follows:—
"VI.—There must be no economic restraint after the war. This condition is of the greatest importance in the preparation for amicable relations between belligerent countries."]

ANGLO-FRENCH DEPOTS AT ARCHANGEL BROKEN UP.

LONDON, Jan. 3. The Times Petrograd Correspondent states that the British and French depots at Archangel have been broken up and their ships have been withdrawn.

BRITISH LABOUR PARTY.

ITS POST-WAR POLICY.

LONDON, Jan. 3. The Labour Party has issued a draft Report outlining its policy after the war and the reconstruction to be considered at the Party Conference in June.
The Report says that a new social order must be constructed based not on individualism and capitalist production but on co-operation in production and distribution for the benefit of all, and not one of enforced dominion over subject nations, subject colonies, subject classes and subject sex, but on equal freedom.
The Report recommends the universal enforcement of a minimum wage and the immediate adoption of a scheme to secure employment for soldiers and war workers on demobilisation, by the establishment of public works, and the reduction of working hours to a maximum of 48 hours weekly.
The Report also demands the nationalisation of mines, railways, electricity and insurance, repudiates a protective tariff and insists on a levy on capital.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S PREMIER RESIGNS.

LONDON, Jan. 3. The Rt. Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, K.C.M.G., Premier of Newfoundland, has resigned in order to maintain political unity during the war and to obviate the danger of a revival of party issues in view of the forthcoming general election.
The war policy of the Dominion Government is unchanged.

THE FIGHTING NEAR JERUSALEM.

A GREAT ACHIEVEMENT.

LONDON, Jan. 3. Reuter's Correspondent at Headquarters at Jerusalem, telegraphing on December 30, states that the record of the last few days' fighting which drove the Turks helter-skelter from immensely strong positions, is a great achievement.

The Turks opened their offensive on the night of December 26 and were strengthened by a Caucasus Division.
The enemy troops were told that Jerusalem was lost for ever if the attack failed, and besides this appeal to their religious fervour, they were told that abundant food was awaiting them.

The first attack was delivered on our right flank, at one o'clock in the morning, and then repeated attacks all day against the firmness of the British defences.

There were eight attacks round the Kent position at Tel-el-Ful and still more furious assaults to the east of Jerusalem, which were equally unsuccessful. Here the fighting lasted the whole day without ceasing, hand grenades being chiefly used and hundreds of Turkish dead were left before the British positions. The British casualties were astonishingly small.

In the meantime, our Higher Command prepared a counter-stroke and forces were detached against the Turkish communications towards Birah and Bafra Allah.

The troops had to advance over most difficult country where the guns were being hauled into position, the men in some places, had to cling to one another's shoulders, on steep, rocky terraces.

A detachment of Yeomanry surprised the Turks, who were preparing to attack, and bayoneted 100.
By nightfall on December 27 the troops had advanced two-and-a-half miles on a nine-mile front; a remarkable feat in such terrain.

The advance continued most rapidly on December 28; position after position falling into our hands and when the various British forces linked up, on December 29, they had seized all the highest points of the Judean watershed.

The Turkish losses, during the three days' fighting, are estimated to be at least 5,000.
There are a large number of Germans amongst the prisoners.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—

We repulsed raiders, during the night, in the neighbourhood of La Bassée, taking some prisoners.

BRITISH AIR COUNCIL ESTABLISHED.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

It is officially announced that the Air Council was established on January 3.

The Council includes Baron Rothermere, President; Major-General Trenchard, C.B., Chief of the Air Staff; Rear-Admiral Mark Kerr, C.B., Deputy Chief of the Air Staff, and Sir William Weir, Director General of Aircraft Production.

ENEMY BOMB HOSPITALS.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

An Italian official message states: The enemy bombed two hospitals, at Castiglione and Veneto, and killed sixteen patients.

DISABLED BRITISH PRISONERS REPATRIATED.

ROTTERDAM, Jan. 3.

Two hundred and thirty-five disabled British prisoners-of-war from Germany have arrived and 870 civilians are expected to-day.

All will proceed to England aboard Dutch steamers.

LABOUR INTERESTS AND MAN-POWER.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

A deputation of employees to Mr. Lloyd George demanded that the Employees' Associations should be represented at the Conference between Labour and the Government on the subject of man-power.

THE RESIGNATION OF SIR CECIL SPRING RICE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3. The resignation of Sir Cecil Spring Rice was tendered during Mr. Balfour's visit, last Spring.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

The commandeering of the British Museum is being reconsidered in view of the complaints.

THE BOARD OF TRADE SECRETARSHIP.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

The Morning Post states that Mr. Wylie has resigned the Secretaryship of the Board of Trade.

THE SPANISH ROYAL PALACE DESTROYED.

IMMENSE LOSSES.

MADRID, Jan. 3.

The Palace at La Granja has been destroyed and a number of houses adjoining the Palace are on fire.

The water pipes were frozen and it was impossible to use the fire hose. A few treasures have been saved but the losses are immense.

NECESSITIES FOR SCANDINAVIA FROM AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.

An agreement has been reached to send a quantity of necessities to Denmark, Sweden and Norway.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE SUBMARINE PIRACY.

BRITISH SHIPPING RETURNS.

LONDON, Jan. 2.

The shipping returns for the week ending December 29, show:—
Arrivals, 2,111
Departures, 2,074
Vessels sunk (over 1,600 tons), 18
Vessels sunk (under 1,600 tons), 3
Vessels unsuccessfully attacked, 8

FRENCH SHIPPING RETURNS.

PARIS, Jan. 3.

The shipping returns for the week ending December 29, show:—
Arrivals, 736
Departures, 756
Vessels sunk (over 1,600 tons), 9
Vessels sunk (under 1,600 tons), 0
Vessels unsuccessfully attacked, 2

ITALIAN SHIPPING RETURNS.

ROME, Jan. 3.

The shipping returns for the week ending December 29, show:—
Vessels sunk (Steamers over 1,500 tons), 1
Vessels sunk (Sailing ships under 100 tons), 1
Vessels unsuccessfully attacked (steamers), 2

THE WESTERN FRONT.

ENEMY RAID REPULSED.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—
The enemy, attempting a raid in the neighbourhood of Oppes, was driven off before reaching the trenches.

His artillery was very active in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Comines Canal.

Our aeroplanes on Tuesday dropped 200 bombs on an ammunition depot near Courtrai, the aerodrome at Ingelmunster and other targets.

Three hostile machines were brought down and two were driven down. One of ours is missing.

ARTILLERY ACTIVITY ON FRENCH FRONT.

LONDON, Jan. 3.

A French communiqué states:—
There was considerable artillery activity in the sectors of Beaumont and Courciers Wood.

SIR C. SPRING RICE'S RETIREMENT CONFIRMED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.

The retirement of Sir Cecil Spring Rice is officially confirmed.
There will not be any change in British policy at Washington.

ROYAL PALACE IN SPAIN ON FIRE.

MADRID, Jan. 2.

The Royal Palace at La Granja is on fire.
No details are to hand.

QUEBEC AND THE WAR.

OTTAWA, Jan. 3.

The Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec has forwarded through the Governor General a message to His Majesty the King expressing the continued loyalty of the people of the Province to the Crown and their determination to do their part in the war.

RUSSIA.

REVOLUTIONARIES SHOT.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 2.

M. Trotsky in a communiqué states that several Revolutionaries were shot at Rossarab, and adds that the Revolutionaries were safely conducted by the Revolutionary Committee to Jassy, where they were arrested and tried. They narrowly escaped shooting.

M. Trotsky sternly warns Rumania that he will not tolerate the repressing of either Russian or Rumanian Revolutionaries and Socialists. He threatens the most harsh measures, irrespective of the offenders' positions.

UKRAINE AND THE BOLSHEVIKS.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 2.

The Bolshevik News Agency announces that the Ukraine Rada is willing to agree to the Bolshevik demands not to take or facilitate military measures against the Bolsheviks on condition that money is sent to Ukraine and that the Ukraine Republic is officially recognised.

The Bolshevik delegates from Kiev state that a friendly settlement on these lines is probable. If so Ukraine will not place an embargo on wheat exports to Great Russia.

THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF PETROGRAD.

PETROGRAD, Jan. 2.

Ensayeff who has been appointed temporary Commander-in-Chief of the Petrograd district, is a non-commissioned officer in the Jager Regiment (not a sailor as telegraphed yesterday). He is also the editor of the Army and Navy, the organ of the Workers' and Peasants' Government.

THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY.

Four hundred and forty-seven members to the Constituent Assembly have now been elected. They include 236 Social Revolutionaries and 138 Marxists.

THE ALLIED CONFERENCE AT PARIS.

AMERICAN DELEGATES URGE CLOSE CO-OPERATION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.

It is officially announced that the American Delegates to the Paris Conference, reporting to their Government, emphasised the necessity of a constant and speedy despatch of American troops to the European battle front, the speeding up of merchant shipping, and closer co-operation with the belligerents.

A FAR REACHING AGREEMENT.

An agreement has been made with the British Admiralty to achieve certain plans against submarines and for the participation of the United States in the military decorations of the Supreme War Council.

The contribution of the United States to the pooling of war resources was agreed upon, the latter guaranteeing that full equipment of every kind will be available to all troops despatched to Europe during 1918.

In order to enable the United States to visualise the problem of food control, Great Britain, France and Italy have agreed to introduce legalised compulsory control of foodstuffs in their countries.

The statement expresses gratification at the success of the Conference in the co-ordination of the warlike work of the Allies.

The recommendations include that the United States shall exert all their influence to secure entire unity of effort, military, naval and economic between themselves and the countries associated with them in the war.

Inasmuch as the successful termination of the war by the United States and the Allies can be greatly hastened by the union of the United States Government and people of the United States shall lend every effort in accomplishing this result by a systematic co-ordination of their resources of man and materials, that the greatest amount of tonnage shall be devoted for the transportation of American troops and a definite plan formed for the active utilization of the American naval forces.

MARIE CORRELLI FINED FOR FOOD-HOARDING.

LONDON, Jan. 2.

Miss Marie Correlli has been fined £50 for hoarding food.

MESOPOTAMIA STORIES.

TOLD BY THE RURAL DEAN OF THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

A Correspondent had an interesting glimpse at the mentality of M. Kerensky in the course of a chat with General Gourko. The general (who was exiled because of his mistrust of the Kerensky régime) said that Kerensky was a neuritic. "It was quite impossible to get him to talk logically or calmly about anything. Even when 'détaché' he was perpetually bursting into frenzied outcries, as if he were trying to stifle a meeting into enthusiasm."

His eyes were staring, his hair was perpetually twisting about, and his voice had a curious, crack of constantly breaking.

A worse informed man on general affairs I had never met. This was the reason, he expected, why he might have been expected to 'détaché' himself from the world.

On the contrary, he did not seem to grasp even the simplest of international affairs, while on the subject of military movements he was brilliant. He had been in the front line of the Russian army, and he had a story to tell of a Russian soldier who had been killed.

KERENSKY THE NEUROTIC.

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THE LATE GENERAL MAUDE.

A STRIKING TRIBUTE.

CALCUTTA, Dec. 12.

Reuter's special correspondent in Mesopotamia, writing from Bagdad, says: This morning, Sunday, November 25, a memorial service for General Maude was held in the Citadel of Bagdad. He lies buried in the very centre of the British cemetery to the north of the city, the old Turkish cavalry barracks. A wooden cross marks his grave, and a heap of wreaths of chrysanthemums and marigolds is strewn over the grassless mound of the grave, and among them are ribbons and artificial flowers to supply and transform the operation. In every branch of the staff work he was the inspirer and director. The retrieving of the situation after we had failed to relieve Kut, the reconstruction of the fighting machine, and the breaking up of the Turkish force on the Tigris, called forth qualities which, when found in combination, amount to genius. In the dark days we prayed for a great man, and he was on the spot. General Maude might have been born for the task. His whole life was a preparation for it. The large vision was a gift; the discipline, method and single-mindedness were the outcome of the training his character had imposed on himself.

I can quote an estimate of General Maude from an officer well qualified to judge. He said: "There are three different kinds of military knowledge. Firstly, that of the fighting side, strategy and tactics; secondly, that of staff work and staff duties; and thirdly, that of the organisation and interior economy of an army. Many men have one of these three kinds of knowledge; some of them two, but General Maude had them all three."

Yet he never gave himself the credit for any successful operation or stroke of genius or sound piece of organisation. He never listened to congratulations without minimising his own part in the affair. "Don't congratulate me," he would say in a tone of injured brusquerie and good-natured impatience. "It was the men who did it," and he was genuinely uncomfortable as if he were wearing borrowed plumes. He probably conceived every detail of the operations, even to the handling of a single battalion; yet when the coup was accomplished, he would reflect the whole credit on the subordinate command.

He detested flattery, flattery being a hyperbole of any kind. I believe if it had been possible he would have liked to carry on the campaign anonymously. No personal reference to himself was permitted in any public communiqué and his modesty may be seen in every line of his despatches. He was very simple-minded and direct in all his relations, and as disciplined in his routine as a clock. He would start work at five in the morning. Breakfast was at seven and it was finished at 7.15. Then office and a full day's work until half past five in the evening. He travelled light, with a valise and a small kitbag containing everything he possessed. An 80-lb. kit is an officer's allowance, and he was the last man in the world to entertain the idea of privilege. Time in war is everything," was one of his favourite quotations. Every officer he said ought to have it inscribed on his shaving glass. His work and actions were governed by this maxim. He was never late for an appointment, church service, entertainment, meal. One might expect a man who was so conscientious a preparation to be lacking in human qualities; but his kindness was unfailing. Everyone who met him felt his personal magnetism, and those who knew him best loved him. His sympathy and consideration were known to his troops. On the eve of an operation, he would send them encouraging messages, and he made a point of presenting medals immediately after an action to those who had distinguished themselves. Delay in this respect he considered defeated the object aimed at. Only the other day he travelled sixty miles by aeroplane for this purpose. As soon as any wounded officers or men arrived at a hospital from the front, his first thought was to go and visit them, and if there was an officer in hospital whom he knew, he would pay him constant visits. He never failed in kindness of this nature, however pressed he might be with work. He was a loyal, lovable, as well as a great man.

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THE GREATEST BRAVERY.
SIR EVELYN WOODS' TRIBUTE TO THE BRITISH SOLDIER.
In a striking address Sir Evelyn Woods recently paid a tribute to the British soldier of his day and of the present. The occasion was his presentation of a medal for bravery to Corporal J. L. Cantairs at Harlow. Sir Evelyn cited a personal experience during the Crimean War.
"My commanding officer, who was regarded by us as the bravest of the brave—he picked up a shell from the centre of a gun's crew and, carrying it on his chest, threw it over the top of a parapet, selected three officers."
He asked us to walk with heads up and shoulders back as we passed along the battery to encourage the men to disregard the shot and shell flying over us.
"Before the war I was often asked: Will our men fight like our forefathers? I always gave the same answer: 'Yes, their hearts will be as firm, but their heads better filled.'"
"I am satisfied from personal experience that the strain on a man's nerves when fighting with sword or bayonet is not so severe as when he has to stand still under fire."
Sir Evelyn concluded: "I think that the verdict of history will be that the decision of Sir John French, on October 20, 1914, to leave the troops on a very thinly-held thirty-mile line, to do their best to resist the enormous oncoming mass of Germans, sending Sir Douglas Haig to prolong it ten miles further northwards, in order to save the Channel ports, is unique."
"The line was held at the cost of a terrible number of lives, but the men by dying to hold it justified this most audacious tactical decision."
A Bedfordshire market gardener was recently fined £4,000 and £200 costs and was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for having sold potatoes at over the maximum price. His excess profits amounted to £2,504.
It is officially announced that promotion of seniority is abolished in the United States Army. Henceforth the promotion of officers in the federalised militia and national guard will depend solely upon the military qualities of the candidates.

WOMEN'S AGE.
A SWEETSTAKE DRAMA.
To relieve the tedium of a recent homeward voyage the smoking sal

